CHARGE NUMBER: Project 1902

PROJECT TITLE: Microbial Technology

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PROJECT LEADER: E.D. Mooz

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I. Biotransformation:

Several yeast cultures were rescreened to test for their ability to biotransform ionone. The yeasts were evaluated in three different media and under conditions to increase the rate of biotransformation. Some yeasts do appear to biotransform ionone.

Five Aspergillus cultures previously typed by American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) were examined by scanning electron microscopy. These were compared with a reference culture of Aspergillus carbonarius also obtained from ATCC. The cultures were also examined by light microscopy. The reference Aspergillus carbonarius has a spore size of 9.3 - 12.4mμ, while the other Aspergillus cultures have a spore size of 2.5 - 3.7mμ. Twelve streptomyces cultures also typed by ATCC are being examined by SEM to study their spore morphology.

II. Recombinant DNA

Studies continue with the screening of plaques for the presence of tobacco actin gene(s). The plaques are transferred to cellulose nitrate filters and hybridized with a ^{32}P-labeled soybean actin gene.

Work continues on developing methods for DNA sequencing.

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